COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Announcement of Import Restraint Limits and Guaranteed Access Levels for Certain Cotton, Wool and Man-Made Fiber Textile Products Produced or Manufactured in the Dominican Republic

November 5, 1998.

AGENCY: Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA).

ACTION: Issuing a directive to the Commissioner of Customs establishing limits and guaranteed access levels.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Naomi Freeman, International Trade Specialist, Office of Textiles and Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482–4212. For information on the quota status of these limits, refer to the Quota Status Reports posted on the bulletin boards of each Customs port, call (202) 927–5850, or refer to the U.S. Customs website at http://www.customs.ustreas.gov. For information on embargoes and quota reopenings, call (202) 482–3715.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: Section 204 of the Agricultural Act of 1956, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1854); Executive Order 11651 of March 3, 1972, as amended.

The import restraint limits and guaranteed access levels for textile products, produced or manufactured in the Dominican Republic and exported during the period January 1, 1999 through December 31, 1999 are based on limits notified to the Textiles Monitoring Body pursuant to the Uruguay Round Agreement on Textiles and Clothing (ATC).

In the letter published below, the Chairman of CITA directs the Commissioner of Customs to establish the 1999 limits and guaranteed access levels. The limits for Categories 339/639 and 347/348/647/648 have been reduced for carryforward applied in 1998.

A description of the textile and apparel categories in terms of HTS numbers is available in the CORRELATION: Textile and Apparel Categories with the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (see Federal Register notice 62 FR 66057, published on December 17, 1997). Information regarding the 1999 CORRELATION will be published in the Federal Register at a later date.

Requirements for participation in the Special Access Program are available in

Federal Register notice 63 FR 16474, published on April 3, 1998.

Trov H. Cribb.

Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements

November 5, 1998.

Commissioner of Customs, Department of the Treasury, Washington, DC

Dear Commissioner: Pursuant to section 204 of the Agricultural Act of 1956, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1854); Executive Order 11651 of March 3, 1972, as amended; and the Uruguay Round Agreement on Textiles and Clothing (ATC), you are directed to prohibit, effective on January 1, 1999, entry into the United States for consumption and withdrawal from warehouse for consumption of cotton, wool and man-made fiber textile products in the following categories, produced or manufactured in the Dominican Republic and exported during the twelvemonth period beginning on January 1, 1999 and extending through December 31, 1999, in excess of the following levels of restraint:

Category	Restraint limit
338/638 339/639 340/640	951,261 dozen. 1,080,321 dozen. 979,271 dozen.
342/642	689,136 dozen.
347/348/647/	2,194,361 dozen of which
648.	not more than 1,238,434 dozen shall be in Cat- egories 647/648.
351/651	1,173,979 dozen.
433	22,085 dozen.
442	74,983 dozen.
443	137,182 numbers.
444	74,983 numbers.
448	38,628 dozen.
633	143,688 dozen.

The limits set forth above are subject to adjustment pursuant to the provisions of the ATC and administrative arrangements notified to the Textiles Monitoring Body.

Products in the above categories exported during 1998 shall be charged to the applicable category limits for that year (see directive dated December 19, 1997) to the extent of any unfilled balances. In the event the limits established for that period have been exhausted by previous entries, such products shall be charged to the limits set forth in this directive.

Also pursuant to the ATC, and under the terms of the Special Access Program, as set forth in 63 FR 16474 (April 3, 1998), effective on January 1, 1999, you are directed to establish guaranteed access levels for properly certified textile products in the following categories which are assembled in the Dominican Republic from fabric formed and cut in the United States and re-exported to the United States from the Dominican Republic during the period January 1, 1999 through December 31, 1999:

Category	Guaranteed access level
338/638	1,150,000 dozen.

0-1	0
Category	Guaranteed access level
339/639	1,150,000 dozen.
340/640	1,000,000 dozen.
342/642	1,000,000 dozen.
347/348/647/	8,050,000 dozen.
648.	
351/651	1,000,000 dozen.
433	21,000 dozen.
442	65,000 dozen.
443	50,000 numbers.
444	30,000 numbers.
448	40,000 dozen.
633	60,000 dozen.

Any shipment for entry under the Special Access Program which is not accompanied by a valid and correct certification in accordance with the provisions of the certification requirements established in the directive of February 25, 1987, as amended, shall be denied entry unless the Government of the Dominican Republic authorizes the entry and any charges to the appropriate specific limits. Any shipment which is declared for entry under the Special Access Program but found not to qualify shall be denied entry into the United States.

In carrying out the above directions, the Commissioner of Customs should construe entry into the United States for consumption to include entry for consumption into the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

The Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements has determined that these actions fall within the foreign affairs exception of the rulemaking provisions of U.S.C.553(a)(1).

Sincerely,

Troy H. Cribb,

 ${\it Chairman, Committee for the Implementation} \\ {\it of Textile Agreements.}$

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COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Request for Public Comments on the Extension of Temporary Amendment to the Requirements for Participating in the Special Access Progam for Caribbean Basin Countries

November 5, 1998.

AGENCY: Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA).

ACTION: Notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lori E. Mennitt, International Trade Specialist, Office of Textiles and Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482–3400.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: Section 204 of the Agricultural Act of 1956, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1854); Executive Order 11651 of March 3, 1972, as amended.